[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

The necessary provision has accordingly been included in the budget estimates for the next year. Additional staff has also been provided under Working Expenses for strengthening the existing staff of the water works establishment on account of the anticipated completion of the second stage of the water works.

31. *Town Planning Scheme.*—The schemes prepared by Mr. Krumbiegel, Architect and Town Planner for the improvements of the town, have been approved generally by Government. The Avenue road from Kaudiar to Vellayambalam, main road from East Fort Gate to Cantonment Junction, the Arattu road, etc., have already been brought under the Town Planning Regulation IV of 1108, and the Municipality has been asked to prepare and submit draft Town Planning schemes in respect of these areas for the approval of Government.

The improvement of the Thampanoor area will be taken up as a separate scheme and the matter is under the consideration of Government.

In the current year's budget, as will be seen from para 27 of the last year's budget speech, provision for the expenditure under the Town Planning schemes was included partly under Advances and partly under expenditure charged to revenue. It has been now decided to treat the whole scheme as a single capital project classified under "Capital not charged to revenue." A comprehensive estimate and a programme for the entire scheme is proposed to be drawn up and the financial results of the scheme showing the probable receipts expected from the scheme on account of the sales of house sites, etc., and the net cost to Government will also be shown therein.

A lump sum of Rs 10 lakhs has been provided under capital for these schemes in the budget for the next year.

32. *The Council Chamber.*—The question of constructing a suitable building for holding the meetings of the Legislature was under consideration for some time past. It was finally decided that the Council Chamber might be constructed in the premises of the Public Office building as an extension to the existing building. The site was also approved by Mr. Krumbiegel, Architect and Town Planner. The foundation stone of the new Council Chamber was laid by His Excellency the Viceroy in December 1933. The designs of the buildings were prepared by Mr. Krumbiegel and detailed working drawings and estimates were prepared by the Chief Engineer. The estimate prepared by him for the construction of the north wing is under the consideration of Government. Meanwhile, tenders were invited for the construction of the building.

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The tenders received are also under consideration now. In 1111 M. E. a provision of Rs 2 lakhs was made in the budget for the construction of the Council Chamber. As the estimate was prepared too late and the question of the method of executing the work was not decided, it was not possible to take up the work this year. The construction of the north wing will be taken up next year.

A sum of Rs 2 lakhs has been provided in the budget estimates for 1112 for the purpose under capital not charged to revenue.

33. *Railways.*—A provision of Rs ·42 of a lakh and Rs ·48 of a lakh respectively has been made in the budget estimates for the next year for the capital outlay relating to the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway and Chackai-Thampanoor extension of the Railway. The total expenditure on these two railways will amount to Rs 55·50 lakhs and Rs 28·67 lakhs respectively at the close of 1112 aggregating on the whole to Rs 84·17 lakhs. Government have also guaranteed to recoup the loss, if any on account of the working of the Quilon-Shencottah Railway. In the result, the loss to be recouped for the years 1111 and 1112 is expected to amount to Rs ·85 and Rs ·50 of a lakh respectively.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

34. *The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project*—Great progress has been made in the execution of the various works connected with the project, during the current year.

The excavation for the Water Tunnel was completed in February last and portions of the tunnel where the ground has been found to be unsatisfactory are being lined with concrete. The design of the headworks has been finally settled as a result of the visits of Major Howard and Signor Marcello whose services were requisitioned by Government in a consulting capacity to examine the details of the works relating to the scheme. The construction of the Headworks is proposed to be taken up just after the monsoon. The erection of pipes, etc., will be completed early in 1112.

The power house building has been nearly completed in all respects. The Ascu Timber Treatment Plant ordered by the Forest Department has been installed and is now in operation.

All the works in connection with the Project are expected to be completed by the middle of the year 1112, when the Revenue accounts will be started. Proposal is also under consideration for the extension of the supply to Quilon and other places. When the scheme reaches a normal period of operation, it is expected to bring in a substantial return.

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